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IDEA 0709

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28 MAR 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief Development Branch, DPD

SUBJECT: KC-97/U-2C Inflight Refueling

1. The KC-135/U-2C inflight refueling capability has presented certain problems which stem from the large speed differential of the two aircraft. While the maneuver has been established as feasible and operationally practical there is very little margin for safety. The use of KC-97 tanker aircraft for refueling the U-2C has been suggested as more compatible. Certainly the speed differential problem doesn't exist. From an operational standpoint much of the recurring proficiency training and even some operational IFR requirements could be satisfied by the KC-97.

2. It is requested you obtain from Lockheed Aircraft Corp. their consideration for conducting a complete feasibility and flight testing study of the KC-97/U-2C refueling possibility.

3. Please advise.

25X1A SIGNED

[Redacted Signature]

Chief, Special Projects Branch, DPD

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